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Academic Senate Minutes

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Spring 2-20-2008

# Senate Meeting, February 20, 2008

Academic Senate  
*Illinois State University*

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**Academic Senate Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 20, 2008**  
*(Approved)*

***Call to Order***

Senate Chairperson Dan Holland called the meeting to order.

***Roll Call***

Senate Secretary Susan Kalter called the roll and declared a quorum.

***Approval of Minutes of February 6, 2008***

**Motion XXXIX-40:** By Senator Stewart, seconded by Senator Anders, to approve the Academic Senate Minutes of February 6, 2008. The minutes were unanimously approved.

***Attendance and Motions***

***Chairperson's Remarks***

**Senator Holland:** I was really very impressed with the NIU vigil last night. There were over 1,000 people there. I would like to congratulate SGA for organizing it. The Ray Kurzweil speech for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary was very inspiring. The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee received the Team Excellence Award, so congratulations to them. I would like to thank everyone on the Senate; the hard work is paying off and lots of things are coming to the Senate. Finally, I would like to welcome Senator McLoda of KNR to the Senate. (He replaces Senator Zant.)

***Student Body President's Remarks***

**Senator Horstein:** Immediately following the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary bell ringing event, we heard the news of the tragedy at NIU. I would like to extend a special thank you to President Bowman and Vice President Adams for speaking at the vigil. It means a lot to students to see that administrators care and support us on such issues. Also, thank you to Athletics; with the help of Athletics, we were able to use the facility, all of the tech equipment and everything for free.

We performed an audit today of our platform issues, which we ran on originally a year ago, and identified areas in which we have accomplished our goals, areas that still need attention, as well as areas that we will recommend the next SGA pursue. It's exciting to see, as we get nearer to the end of our term, which ends on April 13<sup>th</sup>, what we have been able to accomplish this year. In terms of off-campus housing, I have been working with City Manager Mark Peterson. I want to dispel any rumors that the Town of Normal is not cooperative with the students or the university. I had an amazing meeting with Mark last Friday and it definitely looks like we can bring all parties to the table, SGA, on behalf of the students, property managers and town officials to improve the quality of life for off-campus students, keeping all parties happy. This Thursday, we are having a "Pack the Arena" event at 6:00 p.m. We will have music, pizza and prizes. I extend an invitation to everyone on the Senate, so if you are attending the game on Thursday, please stop by. I believe that we will be in the Redbird Room.

Finally, I will give you an update on what's going on with our own constitution. I am compiling everything, such as petitions and informational pieces, for students to sign and we will begin collecting signatures on either Friday or Monday. We do need signatures from 10% of the student

body to ratify our revised constitution. Once the constitution is ratified, we are going to be passing it along with a memorandum of understanding to Dr. Bowman requesting his signature to officially establish Student Government as the governing body of the student body at Illinois State University.

### ***Administrators' Remarks***

#### ***· President Al Bowman***

**President Bowman:** I, too, want to congratulate and thank our students for organizing the vigil at Redbird Arena. Kevin Martin and Dave Horstein, as well as the other individuals that worked with them, deserve a tremendous amount of credit.

Today was the governor's budget address. He proposed an economic stimulus package that includes a piece that is very important to us and that is a capital bill for \$25 billion, which does include our Fine Arts Complex. He also proposed tax credits for families with children, \$300 per child, and then tax cuts for businesses that paid corporate taxes last year. Also, he intends to try to close loopholes on businesses that did not. He has proposed expanding health care with a 3% payroll tax on businesses that have more than 10 employees that don't offer health insurance. He did propose a 3% across-the-board cut on all state budgets except for health care, public safety and education. For higher education, he proposed no new increases; for SURS, he did recommend an increase from \$345 million to \$386 million.

The budget that has been proposed for each individual campus, including ours, is flat, which would mean an \$82.9 million appropriation. Actually, given the national and state economy, it's not surprising that he is recommending a flat budget. If this budget does pass, and that is a pretty big "if", it would mean that we would go into the new fiscal year with continued limits on hiring—the hiring freeze would continue. We would allow exemptions for faculty positions and any critical staff or civil service positions. If this budget passes, we will need to continue to focus our resources on the academic side, especially our efforts to retain faculty and staff in a nationally competitive job market. We will see cost increases next year for things like utilities and all of the other products that we consume; that will require us to generate additional revenue in some way. The Truth in Tuition legislation will, of course, guarantee tuition rates for current students, so any new proposals from us will only apply to new freshmen and transfer students.

The piece that is really critical to us, and I have made this clear to anyone who will listen in Springfield, is that if there are midyear cuts next year, our ability to absorb a midyear cut is very limited, in part, because we are getting \$10 million a year less from the state than we were in 2002. So it is very important that whatever budget is allocated to us at the beginning of the fiscal year remains in our accounts. I mentioned that the \$25 billion capital bill does include the Fine Arts Complex and that has been priced at \$50,600,000. With inflation, that gets us at least part of what we need.

Another report has come from the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, which is a Springfield group that reports on the state's finances every month. We just received the reports on the January revenues. Those revenues did slip slightly compared to December, but there are actually a couple of bright spots. Since Dr. Bragg is in another meeting tonight, I will cover some of the things that he would have talked about. Personal income tax receipts were up \$91 million in January and corporate tax receipts were up \$18 million. Sales taxes were flat for the month, which is probably a little surprising; I am sure a lot of people thought that they would decline. Overall, for the first seven months of this fiscal year, the state's overall base receipts were up \$564 million. The

expectation, though, is that the second half will begin to slow and that that will continue to the end of the fiscal year.

As the governor talked about today, there are tremendous demands on state finances, including health care and education. His proposal does not include a large increase for K-12. There is a small increase there and that immediately will elicit a reaction from those members of the General Assembly for whom that is a passion. For pensions, there is a backlog of unpaid state bills that, depending on how you count, is more than one billion dollars.

I would like to make a few comments on campus security. We have been answering a lot of questions from students and, in particular, families. I want to go over some information that I spoke about yesterday at the vigil. As you know, our campus is patrolled by a professional police force 24 hours a day. You may be surprised that most campuses across the country do not have their own police forces. Certainly, the larger ones do, but it is pretty typical for community police agencies to patrol college campuses. There are certainly advantages to having your own police force that I think are obvious. Our emergency call boxes are arrayed across campus and link directly to the police dispatcher. As you learned during the NIU crisis, we have the ability to send electronic warning messages to all campus e-mail accounts and to the ISU home page. We have a paging system for classroom buildings and a public address system for residence halls.

We are in the final stages of securing a system that can send emergency messages via cell phone voice mail and text. The campus experience with those across the country has been mixed. At most campuses, and I think about 100 have rolled those out so far, students, and even faculty and staff, have not, for whatever reason, signed up for the service. The University of Missouri has about 74,000 students and less than 3,000 students have signed up for the system. We are still going to purchase a system because we think that it is simply another tool and that perhaps as text messaging becomes even more prevalent, it will be utilized. We plan to do a good marketing campaign to try to convince the campus to sign on to the system.

All of these kinds of procedures are, of course, reactive, and the key is to keep violence from occurring in the first place; prevention is very important. We do have a group on campus that is involved with students who are in some level of difficulty and, as you know from media reports, we have removed students who appeared to be ready to do some harm to those around them. Within the next couple of days, you will see a link on the home page to a summary of security procedures and processes. The information is all there now, but we are going to make it more accessible and easy to find.

**Senator Horstein:** One issue with the security plan at NIU was with their texting plan. The networks were overloaded and people were not able to get calls through and things like that. Do the packages that you are looking at address overloads of networks?

**President Bowman:** The text piece of the package for all of these systems will continue to work, but the voice portion of the system will depend on the capacity of the towers in the local vicinity. We assume that those would be overwhelmed if we were to have a similar kind of disaster here, but we would really depend on the mass e-mails, the text system, as well as paging and alerts in residence halls. Some campuses have gone to outdoor electronic messaging; there is probably no end to what you can do.

**Senator Alferink:** Is there a plan, should an incident happen on this campus, to train individuals as how best to evacuate people from buildings so that they can egress safely or to stay in place?

**President Bowman:** That has been talked about at great length and because of the multitude of scenarios that would dictate those actions, we think that a good, reliable messaging system that allowed the police department to provide very specific instructions related to the situation at hand is going to be better.

· **Acting Provost Jan Shane-Murphy**

**Provost Murphy:** I want to echo what the President just spoke of in terms of campus security and safety and maybe look to my colleague, Steve Adams. Academic Affairs is identifying students who are at risk. Student Affairs has really taken the lead in that and they are strong colleagues who help make sure that we are connecting all of those areas of campus so that we are identifying students who we are starting to think have concerns about, about their safety or safety of others.

Every two weeks, there is a group of us that meet, including the Director of Residence Halls, Director of Student Counseling, a member of the police force, my office and Vice President .Adams' office, to really talk about those students and to say, 'if we are seeing concerns in one area, are there other areas of concern in that student's life?' So we are not kind of working in silos, but are trying to talk together to make sure that we are aware of students who are struggling. Again, the concern is for our students' personal safety, safety to themselves and of others. That is a group that has been working together informally for at least the last three or four years and more formally in the last year. It is a group that meets every two weeks without fail and a lot of conversations occur. So I think from that side of the fence, we are ahead of the curve in that we really are thinking about students holistically and what we can do to help and support them.

We are close to closing admits for the fall first-year students and this is an early close to our admissions process, but we were pretty aggressive in the admissions process this year. We filled this class more quickly than in previous years. We are holding about 200 admits aside and making our last 200 decisions on admits very carefully. Altogether, we are going to run about 13,500 applications. That is up about 10% from a year ago. We have admitted 6% more students than last year to date.

The average ACT of admitted students is 24.4, compared to 24.6 a year ago. We have also admitted 71 students for the summer and that is up slightly from last year. In terms of our underrepresented group admissions, we have received 22% more applications from underrepresented students than a year ago; we have admitted 8% more students in those areas and the average ACT of that group is 22.2. In terms of new transfer applications, we are up 6% from a year ago. One figure I always find interesting is, of those new transfer applications, 23% come from other four-year institutions. That is a number that is higher than I would have guessed. We are pretty used to having our new transfer applications come from two-year schools, but about one in every four of our transfer students have transferred to us from other four-year institutions. I think that that is a mark of excellence for this institution and I am really pleased with that. New transfer applications from underrepresented groups are up about 12%

Our FY09 Academic Affairs Program Planning and Budget Presentations will be on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 25 and 26; we like to see lots of our Academic Senators as their schedules permit. It's from 8:00 a.m. to noon in the Old Main Room, so for those of you who are available, you can

come and go as you need to; it's not something that you are locking yourself into for four hours in a morning.

The last thing I want to talk about, and provide a handout for, is that on September 25, 26 and 27, we are hosting a national conference here in Bloomington at the Doubletree Hotel. It is called the Innovative Partnerships for Student Learning Conference. For those who have been around for awhile, it is a continuation of our old Carnegie Conference Series that we have held in the past. It is co-sponsored this year by ISU, Illinois Wesleyan and Heartland Community College. It has been a pretty amazing conference to plan with those two groups.

We have been working on this for about a year and a half and are really looking forward to this fall. We have Felice Nudelman, who is the Education Coordinator for the *New York Times*, coming in to speak to this group. We've got Tony Chambers, who is an Associate Vice Provost at the University of Toronto; Tony is also an alumni; Gwen Dungy, who is the Executive Director of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrations; and Dr. Cecilia Lopez, who is the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Harold Washington College, who is going to talk about partnerships between universities in urban settings. We are currently receiving presentation proposals from universities all over the nation.

Just as in the past with Carnegie, this is a national conference, which we just happen to have here in this community. We have an excellent reduced-rate for Illinois State University staff, faculty and students. It really is going to be an exciting conference. We are even having a kind of progressive dinner with buses taking conference participants from Heartland Community College, from their new building, to Illinois State University's new Alumni Center, and then down to Illinois Wesleyan to, we think, their library for the third part of a progressive dinner. We strongly encourage you to submit proposals for partnership kinds of opportunities that you have or that you are working on.

**Senator Klitzing:** In regard to the committee that tries to identify students that may be at risk, is there someone on the committee from Counseling and from Disability Concerns?

**Provost Murphy:** Absolutely; there is also legal counsel there. As you can imagine, the Director of Counseling, who sits at the table, is far more less engaged in the details of the conversation; there is not a lot that she can say other than encourage us if we are working with a student that we are starting to think is at risk. She can usually say just enough to let us know that we need to keep moving down that path to help that student.

It's a very hands-on help that we provide students; it is not uncommon for that to be the group that decides if a student needs to find and seek medical help very quickly. It is one of the few committees where, because of the emergency nature of the situation, FERPA rules don't apply, so we can call parents; we can call relatives; we can get very quick and very active support for students. It is one of the most difficult committees that I sit on, but, at times, it is one of the most rewarding.

· **Vice President of Student Affairs Steve Adams**

**Senator Adams:** The student intervention group mentioned by Dr. Murphy is called the Student Behavioral Intervention Team. It has been in existence for several years on an informal basis and we formalized it within the last six to nine months. I think that the question of privacy is certainly one a lot people have, but I think the potential for violence or other incidents that are very undesirable are

just as important to recognize so that we can possibly prevent them.

As President Bowman mentioned, there have been some students in the past couple of years that have been removed by administrative withdrawals from the campus. Other students have been sent back overseas, international students, and I definitely think that it is a sophisticated system that I hope will gain nationwide recognition by other institutions. That is not to say that other institutions don't have them, but I think that they may become more prevalent on college campuses.

I am very fortunate to have in my office an outstanding associate vice president, Dr. Brent Paterson, who is the point person for this committee. I would encourage all members of the Senate, members of your departments, members of your colleges, members of your classes, etc., to help this group. This group can only react when there are examples of very unusual behavior. There may prove to be cases that do not in any way pan out, but there may be other cases where additional investigation leads to prevention.

At last Friday's Board of Trustees' meeting, approval was given by the Board for the decommissioning of Dunn, Barton and Walker. The demolition is scheduled to begin in May and the asbestos removal process and the land clearing of that particular sector will take most of the summer, so it will probably be September before we really get into the beginning of the construction of the Student Fitness and Kinesiology Center. It is an exciting moment; but it is a sad moment as well for many students, alumni and others who have many fond memories of Dunn, Barton and Walker. I am getting requests almost every day for bricks. I got one today for the mailbox for Walker 323; now what that is going to do for this person, I am really not sure and I am really not sure how to answer the e-mail. I don't know if I could save every mailbox in everyone of those residence halls, but I do know that it is impossible to save those bricks. There is a risk involved in that, so that probably will not happen.

We were fortunate to have on our campus this week, as a part of Black History Month, Dr. William A. Smith, sponsored by Diversity Advocacy in Student Affairs. Dr. Smith is a Chicago native and is now at the University of Utah. President Bowman had the opportunity to meet him this morning before he spoke to a group of about 200. He is the author of a book on the racial crisis in American higher education and provided a very interesting look at a very serious problem in many cities and on many campuses.

As was announced at the vigil yesterday for the Northern Illinois University cause, the Student Government Association, along with the University Programming Board, the Association of Residence Halls and Redbird Athletics, organized a first-class event. I have thanked both Dave Horstein and Kevin Martin, as well as members of the other organizations.

Our Student Counseling Services, lead by Dr. Sandy Colbs, who is on the intervention team, will be sending at least four, as of yesterday and maybe more, licensed counselors, social workers and psychologists from ISU to the Northern Illinois University campus on Sunday. Those counselors will be among a group of at least 300 counselors, psychologists and others from all around the Midwest and perhaps other areas; I am not sure where they all are coming from. They will spend Monday and Tuesday with the NIU students in classrooms, in residence halls and at student-organized gatherings. We are very willing, able and very proud to be a part of that. We hope that our presence provides an opportunity to help students who have the need for that counseling after the tragic event.

**Senator Gifford:** You mentioned the Student Behavioral Intervention Team. Are there liaisons within departments; are there formal liaisons; are there liaisons from advising?

**Senator Adams:** There are no real formal liaisons; I would say more informal.

**Provost Murphy:** I would be the liaison, with my Associate Provost's hat on, for the division. Those calls that I get are most often from department chairs or from associate deans, though I do receive calls and e-mails from faculty now and then. More often than not, what we see are behaviors that are occurring in other parts of the campus and I reach out to a department chair to ask, 'Could you find out from faculty how things are going in the classroom concerning a student? Have they seen anything that concerns them? Has there been any change in grades, change in behavior, change in attendance?' So it's very informal, though it most often comes from department chairs, because for the majority of our faculty, the rapport is with their chair. They are almost always going to go to their chair first and I would actually like for them to so. I don't mind a call from faculty, but I will then always make sure that the chair is in the loop.

· *Vice President of Finance and Planning Steve Bragg - Excused*

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### · *Academic Affairs Committee*

**Senator Waterstraat:** The committee picked up our discussion regarding our ten-year academic credit policy giving students the opportunity to get academic credit for courses completed within the previous ten years. We looked at policies at other institutions and we have a draft policy idea that we want to put forward. I will be going to the Academic Advisors Committee meeting in a couple of weeks and presenting it to them first. They are the ones that are going to have to deal with this, so I would like to get their input before we make a final proposal to this body.

##### · *Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee Chairperson*

**Senator Wilkinson:** The Administrative Affairs Committee is arriving late to the Senate meeting because we were finalizing our report on the commentary on the President. That report will be forwarded to the Executive Committee for review tomorrow and will eventually find its way to the Board of Trustees.

##### · *Faculty Affairs Committee*

**Senator Borg:** The committee began plotting a strategy to deal with an issue that has come to the committee about faculty hiring policies on campus. We continue our drafting of a position paper that we will bring to the Senate later this semester about funding for library materials.

##### · *Planning and Finance Committee*

**Senator Fazel:** The committee developed a Priorities Report last year, which is a list of priorities that we believe the university needs to focus on for the next few years that was presented to the Senate for approval. One of the requests from the Planning and Finance Committee last year was to ask the President to ask the vice presidents to respond to the Priorities Report by indicating whether they support those priorities or not. If they did support them, they were to indicate what they had done to support them. If they did not support the priorities, they were to indicate why and share that information with the committee. Thanks to the President, we received all of the responses that we sought last semester. Tonight, we had a chance to go over the responses and at the same time think



about what our recommendations will be in terms of priorities for 2008 and 2009.

· ***Rules Committee***

**Senator Alferink:** Given that the next item of business for Rules to take up depends on the action that the Senate will take at its next meeting or two, the Rules Committee did not meet tonight, pending that action.

***Action Item:***

***01.24.08.03 Disestablishment of Academic Units Policy-Revised (See Senate Packets of 2/6/08 for this document) (Rules Committee)***

**Senator Alferink:** The Disestablishment Policy that currently exists on the university website and the Disestablishment Policy as it was last approved by the Academic Senate do not agree in that the policy on the website does not include the disestablishment of programs, where as the Senate document does. Rather than trying to decipher how that came to pass, we elected to simply revisit the policy, as there were several other changes that seemed appropriate to make.

So we have included “academic programs” as part of the disestablishment policy and defined what an academic program is and have said who can and who cannot initiate a proposal to disestablish an academic unit. The current policy says that anyone on campus can make such a proposal. We thought that that might not be such a good idea and so we have limited it to the “affected units”, which are the academic units that are involved, and the individuals who have the administrative and fiscal responsibilities for those programs, namely, the President, Provost, deans, department chairs and school directors.

**Motion XXXIX-41:** By Senator Alferink to approve the Disestablishment Policy as revised by the Rules Committee. There was no debate and the Senate unanimously approved the policy as revised.

***Information Items:***

***01.09.08.01 Milner Library Bylaws-Revised (Rules Committee)***

**Senator Alferink:** The Rules Committee reviewed the suggested revisions to the bylaws of the Milner Library Faculty Council and those changes largely involve defining the responsibilities of the officers. We found all of those changes to be reasonable and well within university policies and guidelines and, therefore, recommend the approval of the revised bylaws.

**Motion XXXIX-42:** By Senator Alferink, seconded by Senator Anders, to move the item to action; the motion was unanimously approved.

**Motion XXXIX-43:** By Senator Alferink to approve the Milner Bylaws as revised by the Milner Library Faculty Council. The bylaws were unanimously approved.

***02.07.08.01 SCERB University Hearing Panel - Proposal for Addition to Academic Senate Bluebook (Rules Committee)***

**Senator Alferink:** The Rules Committee has, historically, nominated faculty members to serve on the University Hearing Panel and those nominations are subject to ratification by the Faculty Caucus. Given that the Rules Committee is actively involved in the membership of the panel, there was a question about whether this should be included in the Bluebook. Currently, the University Hearing Panel is referenced only in the Student Code of Conduct. I talked with the director of Community

Rights and Responsibilities and she had no problem with it going into the Bluebook. Therefore, we have taken the language from the Student Code, updated it a little bit to be consistent with current practices and added a role for students to play in ratifying the students that are nominated through the existing process. I recommend that this become part of the Bluebook.

**Senator Graham:** For the part where it says, “12 students are nominated by the Director of Community Rights and Responsibilities”, can we add “or his/her designee or the Student Government Association”? That gives us a little bit more representation. I don’t know if CR&R would be able to tap into a pool in which they would have a good number of students interested or willing to do something like this. Also, I think that this helps us place students in a situation where we would have a little more input. It is not taking away anything from CR&R, but it would then be more consistent with the rest of the Bluebook.

**Senator Alferink:** The role of SGA in this process was thoroughly discussed by the Rules Committee with very active participation by the student members. The student members thought that there were lots of opportunities to sort of encourage students to apply to Community Rights and Responsibilities. Director Newman also talked about working closely with SGA to identify students who would be well suited to serve in this capacity.

**Senator Graham:** That does not directly give us influence. While this particular director may be willing to work with us, future directors may not. So if we continuously get nominees that we are not content with, for example, this (my proposed amendment) may work in favor of the students because both SGA and CR&R will have a say in it.

**Senator Alferink:** We can certainly go back to Rules. I think that there will be strong division in Rules with respect to that because there was already significant discussion of the roles that each group would play and the addition here of SGA approving the nominations from Community Rights and Responsibilities does not exist currently.

**Senator Long:** We talked about it a lot; SGA does have to elect the nominees and, although we may not necessarily have the selection process, we can encourage people (to participate). We found that we could do a lot more to get students to apply for positions and that CR&R has done a fantastic job up to this point in getting those students to join. Heather Miller was one of the people who served on the SCERB Hearing Panel and who was on our committee when we discussed this originally. She found no problem with the way it’s done and made a good argument about the way it’s run. With SGA having to approve the nominees, we do have our say if there is a need to investigate a nominee.

**Senator Kalter:** Larry, can you talk a little bit about whether there was particular opposition to having SGA inserted in this particular sentence and what the rationales would have been?

**Senator Alferink:** We did consider kind of two alternative languages, one of which was that SGA would do the selection versus the nominations coming from Community Rights and Responsibilities. The committee, I think, unanimously, at least those that were present, and I think every student was present, elected the language that we have here. We did not talk about this directly with student members, but my own conversation with colleagues on campus were strongly in favor of this wording versus the alternative.

**Senator Kalter:** Just to clarify—they were in favor of it, but there were not sort of articulated

rationales behind either one.

**Senator Alferink:** Right.

**Senator Horstein:** I do understand that we do actually elect them, but in the Bluebook, a document that has been revised for consistency, for all of the other committees you will find language along the lines of ‘nominated and elected by the Student Government Association’. Now, we are making an exception for one committee. My question would be why the University Hearing Panel is receiving special consideration, as opposed to SCERB in general, or any other committee.

**Senator Alferink:** Partly because that is the way it currently is in the Student Code of Conduct and we are adding a feature to what already exists in that policy document, so we were guided by that language. We are adding a step that does not currently exist, so this is a transition where students have a voice, whereas, currently, they have none. I did argue that if this was going to be in the Bluebook, the students had to have a role so that it would be consistent with their role in governing.

**Senator Borg:** Would you clarify the difference between an ordinary External Committee to the Senate and this particular panel? Does it function in the whole as a committee? I think it does not. This is the panel from which various members are selected, so it is not in the same as a committee. Therefore, the language may not need to be parallel in that sense. Is that not true?

**Senator Alferink:** The Hearing Panel consists of three members drawn from all of the members who are selected to serve on the Hearing Panel, so it does not serve the same function as a committee wherein all members are present at every meeting. In fact, most of the people will never meet with each other.

**Senator Graham:** Can I ask that it go back to Rules for review?

**Senator Holland:** Yes, I think that we have had enough questions so that it would be appropriate to return to Rules.

**02.07.08.02 SCERB – Proposed Revision to Academic Senate Bluebook (Rules Committee)**

**Senator Alferink:** In preparing the language for the University Hearing Panel, we wanted to have reporting functions that were roughly parallel with SCERB and, in looking at SCERB, we recognized that SCERB reported to the President and to the Academic Senate. Having the body report to the Academic Senate did not seem to make much sense to us because of the current way that the Senate is composed. Therefore, we recommended a change to the reporting function. There is a correction that needs to be made in the document that is before you in the last paragraph: “Academic Senate” should be replaced by “Academic Affairs Committee”. SCERB reports “on all other matters to the Student Government Association of the Academic Senate.”

**Senator Borg:** Referring to that same sentence, is it necessary to have the last four words, “of the Academic Senate”?

**Senator Alferink:** No.

**Senator Borg:** I would propose striking those words.

**Senator Alferink:** That would be fine.

**Motion XXXIX-44:** By Senator Alferink, seconded by Senator Horstein, to move the item to action; the motion was unanimously approved.

**Senator Graham:** There is a small grammatical error. There should be a colon after “Nominated and elected by the Student Government Association”.

**Motion XXXIX-45:** By Senator Alferink to approve the revisions to the SCERB section of the Bluebook. The revisions were unanimously approved.

### ***Communications***

#### ***Fine Arts Events and Visiting Authors***

**Senator Borg:** One of our fellow senators has a play opening this evening. Senator Zielinski is directing *Ghosts* by Henrik Ibsen; it will play for the next two weekends at Westhoff Theatre. Friday night, there is an opening of *Spring's Awakening* by Wedekind in the CPA. It will run for two weeks. The University Galleries just opened a new show by the painter, Jim Lutes, who is a former faculty member. It will run through April 6. He will give an artist lecture next Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, at noon. This Friday evening, our faculty jazz group will give a performance in the CPA at 8:00 p.m.; Saturday afternoon; the student jazz ensembles will perform at 2:30 p.m. in the CPA. Finally, the symphonic winds will perform Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in the CPA.

**Senator Gudding:** We have a double poetry reading Monday, March 3, at 7:00 p.m. in the University Galleries by Kristy Odelius & Aaron Belz. Kristy writes really vibrant, dense poems and Aaron Belz is really funny.

**Senator Kalter:** The Choctaw writer, LeAnne Howe, is coming to campus on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### ***Nursing Doctorate Program Approval***

**Senator Kaesberg:** The Mennonite College of Nursing received approval from the IBHE for our new Doctoral Program in Nursing last week.

The Senate congratulated the College of Nursing on this significant accomplishment.

### ***Adjournment***

**Motion XXXIX-46:** By Senator Borg, seconded by Senator Anders, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.